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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/696,431	10/29/2003	Cherng-Chyi Han	HT03-008	6805

7590 04/24/2007
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EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL D

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3729

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/24/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/696,431

Applicant(s)

HAN ET AL.

Examiner

Paul D. Kim

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This office action is a response to the amendment filed on 2/7/2007.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kouchiyama (US PAT. 6,101,071) in view of Kikuchi et al. (US PGPUB 2003/0048578 A1).

Kouchiyama teaches a process of making a reproducing head comprising steps of: providing a shield (33 and 37) in the form of a layer of ferromagnetic material on a substrate (31); inserting a layer of non-magnetic material (32) between the shield and the substrate; and splitting the shield into two opposing parts (33 and 37) separated by a gap (34) as shown in Fig. 11 (see also col. 9, lines 10-43).

However, Kouchiyama fails to teach the non-magnetic material having the thermal conductivity greater than about 300 W/m.K. Kikuchi et al. teach a process of making a magnetic head having a heat sink to be used for the magnetic head including non-magnetic high thermal conductivity material such as Cu or Ni alloy (as per claim 2) having the thermal conductivity greater than about 300 W/m.K in order to prevent an unnecessary influence to a magnetic circuit of the magnetic head (see also paragraph

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[0047] and [0048]). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify a process of fabricating a reproducing head of Kouchiyama by using a non-magnetic high thermal conductivity material as taught by Kikuchi et al. in order to prevent an unnecessary influence to a magnetic circuit of the magnetic head.

As per claims 3 and 4 At the time the invention was made, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide a thickness of the non-,magnetic high thermal conductivity material and a width of the gap as recited in the claimed invention because one of ordinary skill in the art would have expected Applicant's invention to perform equally well with Kouchiyama, modified by Kikuchi et al., because the non-magnetic material having the thermal conductivity as recited in the claimed invention would perform equally well such as thermal conduction with the non-magnetic material in Kikuchi et al. Therefore, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to modify the thickness of the non-,magnetic high thermal conductivity material of Kouchiyama, modified by Kikuchi et al., to obtain the invention as specified in claim 3. In addition, the thickness of the gap (as per claim 4) would also have been an obvious matter of design choice to make a desired reproducing head of Kouchiyama, modified by Kikuchi et al.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

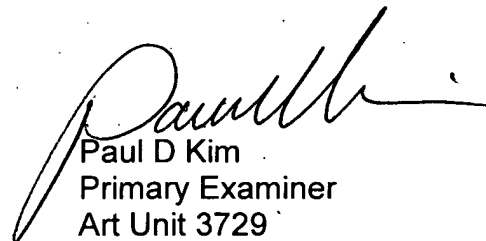
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Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul D. Kim whose telephone number is 571-272-4565. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday between 6:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Vo can be reached on 571-272-4690. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Paul D Kim
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3729